

with the camera 22 are stored in memory 21 and shown on the display 24.

As an example, let us consider the use of the mobile communications device in photography. When the mobile communications device is in transport position, as depicted in FIGS. 1B and 2B, the user takes hold of the radio part 1 and hand part 2 and pulls the parts as far apart as possible so that the mobile communications device preferably is activated for dialing or photographing. Alternatively, the mobile communications device is activated for photography using a menu control. When photography is activated, the user sees the image of the viewfinder of the camera on the display 7 of the radio part 1 and can aim the camera. The picture is taken by pressing a key 8, 9 on the mobile communications device so that said key in this mode functions as a shutter release button. The function of the key serving as a shutter release preferably depends on the mode of the mobile communications device and said key is located such that it is easily pressed e.g. with a thumb in order to take the picture. Such a key preferably belongs to the function keys 8 in the mobile communications device described here, but in a device with different proportions it may also be located elsewhere, such as in the keypad 9 proper, where, however, it is easy to use considering the size of the device. The function of the key may be different in call and photo modes but it may also vary within those modes. A key that functions permanently as a shutter release is also possible, but it cannot be used during normal mobile communications.

As the shutter is released the image in the viewfinder is fixed on the display 7, showing the picture that was taken and stored preferably in the device's own memory, but in principle it is possible to use alternatively or in addition separate additional memory in order to increase the number of pictures that can be stored.

Pressing the shutter release button causes the camera to shake slightly, and to reduce blurredness caused by the shake the device waits for a user-selectable period of time after the shutter release button has been pressed before storing the image in memory. Said delay can be menu-selected preferably between 0 to 1 seconds at 200 ms steps.

Having pressed the shutter release button and when the image is fixed on the display the photographer can check whether the picture is good, as regards e.g. the composition and lighting, and then either save the picture or take a new one. The picture is stored in the memory of the mobile communications device preferably in compressed format to save memory space; one such compression algorithm is the JPEG (Joint Photographers Experts Group) algorithm. A stored image can be further transmitted e.g. to a personal computer (PC) using an infrared or wire link, to an electronic mail system or to another mobile communications device via air interface or to a fax machine, for example.

Stored images can be used in the mobile communications device e.g. in a telephone directory with pictures.

The implementation is not described in greater detail here as a person skilled in the art can realize the arrangement according to the invention on the basis of what has been disclosed above.

The invention is not limited to the embodiments described above, but many modifications are possible within the scope of the invention defined by the claims set forth below.

What is claimed is:

1. A mobile communications device with a camera, comprising a microphone (5), a loudspeaker (6), a display (7), keypad (9) proper, and a camera, and the mobile communications device comprises at least two parts (1, 2) covering each other alternatively completely in the transport position of the camera or partly in the operational position of the camera so that when the parts (1, 2) cover each other in the transport position of the camera the lens (13) of the camera is protected, and in the operational position of the camera the lens (13) of the camera is exposed, characterized in that an image can be projected through the lens (13) of the camera and the display (7) serves as a viewfinder for the camera by displaying the through the lens projected image to the user of the device and the lens (13) of the camera is placed in the device essentially on a different side than the display (7).

2. The mobile communications device of claim 1, characterized in that the device also comprises function keys (8) and the device can be used for telephone calls by means of the microphone (5), the loudspeaker (6), the display (7) and the function keys (8) even when the lens (13) of the camera is covered.

3. The mobile communications device of claim 1, characterized in that the parts (1, 2) covering each other partly or completely move by sliding with respect to each other.

4. The mobile communications device of claim 1, characterized in that the part (2) including the keypad (9) proper of the mobile communications device has in it a shaped grip (12) to make it easier to hold the mobile communications device in hand when used for taking photographs.

5. The mobile communications device of claim 1, characterized in that a photograph is taken by pressing a button the function of which varies in accordance with the operating mode of the mobile communications device.

6. The mobile communications device of claim 1, characterized in that the battery (10) of the mobile communications device is located in that part of the mobile communications device which includes the keypad (9) proper in order to place the center of gravity as low as possible to make photographing easier in vertical position.

7. The mobile communications device of claim 1, characterized in that pictures are being stored in the memory (21) of the mobile communications device and the pictures are used in the mobile communications device in a telephone directory.

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